BILL: **S2017-SR17**

TITLE: **DIVERSIFYING MIDDLEBURY'S PROTEIN SOURCES IN FAVOR OF A MORE SUSTAINABLE DIET**

SPONSORS: **Angie McCarthy and Alec Fleischer**

DATE: **May 14, 2017**

Whereas, Middlebury College has resolved to commit to environmental mindfulness and stewardship in all its activities, achieve and maintain carbon neutrality by 2016, and make environmental, socially equitable, and fiscally responsible purchasing choices,

Whereas, relevant Student Government Association (SGA) committees and student organizations have advocated for a gradual reduction in meat consumption and thereby in the environmental footprint of Middlebury College,

Whereas, Middlebury Dining spends $797,000 on 288,094 pounds of meat per academic year,

Whereas animal agriculture is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, water usage, and contamination of land and water,

Whereas the dangers associated with the meatpacking industry disproportionately affect migrant workers, people of color, and lower income communities,

Whereas industrial farming practices put animals in unnatural and cramped conditions resulting in unnatural, harmful behavior,

Whereas high rates of meat consumption has been linked to cardiac disease, diabetes, cancer, and other illness,

Therefore, be it resolved…

The Student Government Association supports the mission of EatReal :

To promote a more plant-based and sustainable diet on campus by reducing the poundage of meat, especially industrial meat, served in the dining halls by 30% over the course of three years and reallocating the money to higher-quality, more sustainable meat, other more sustainable protein sources, and other more sustainable foods.

Details of implementation:
Meat offered in smaller pieces to promote portion size choice and reduce waste.
There will be fewer meat salads and meat soups.
The ratio of meat in meat soups and salads will decrease.
Meat will continue to be offered at every lunch and dinner.
We would like one plain meat option to be offered at every lunch and dinner.
At meals with multiple plain meat options, a dish that incorporates meat will replace one of the plain meat options.

EatReal will do everything in its power to hold Dining Services accountable for making these changes and taking into account student preferences expressed in the protein plan survey.

The money that will be saved from the meat reduction will be allocated towards other more sustainable protein options, which could potentially include higher-quality, more sustainable/ethical meat.

Benefits:
Reduce the carbon footprint of Middlebury College
Promote more ethical treatment of animals by supporting humanely raised meat
Purchase of higher quality meat, including halal and kosher options
Diverting money from the exploitative meat production industry
More money for other, more diverse sustainable protein sources
Increased campus awareness of the environmental and ethical issues associated with meat; students will carry this with them even after they graduate
Set an example as a leading institution in sustainable food choices

Respectfully submitted,
The Members of EatReal
Ashley Babcock, Co-President
Sarah Howard, Co-President
Grace Lowe, Treasurer
Sarah Koenigsberg, Social Media Chair
Elaine Forbush, Secretary
Isabel Herrick, Events Coordinator
Leena Chawla
Nick Mosier
Emma Patch
Michael Shrader, Director of the Environmental Affairs Committee
Angie McCarthy, Wonnacott Senator
Alec Fleischer, Feb Senator

EatReal
Nutrition Outreach Mentoring
SGA Environmental Affairs Committee
Middlebury College Organic Farm
Campus Sustainability Coordinators
Middlebury Foods
Weybridge House
GlobeMed

Vote Count

In favor:	President Toy, Senator Lantigua, Senator Pustejovsky, Senator Wilson, Senator Waddell, Senator Duran, Senator Fleischer, Senator Aaron, Senator Goldfield, Senator Hayes, Senator Ou, Senator Wright, Senator McCormick, Senator Andrews, Senator McCarthy, Co-Chair Sanderson
Opposed:	None

Abstained: None
Absent: Senator Cohen
S2017-SB17 passes 16-0-0